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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 202143

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Michael A. Arkes

Group Art Unit: 2164

Serial No. 09/414,951

Examiner: Kyle, Charles R.

Filed: October 8, 1999

For: An Incentive Points Redemption
Program Carried Out Via An On-Line
Auction

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2002, please consider the following remarks in view of the amendments to the claims and the Declaration filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.131 and 1.132 enclosed and filed herewith. Reconsideration of the prior grounds for rejection of all the presently pending claims 1-20 is respectfully requested. Applicants have also petitioned for a three-month extension of time.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for administering an on-line auction for an incentive points redemption facility including a catalog of potential auction items, and a participant database comprising participant records, wherein each participant record includes a participant identifier and an incentive point value total available to the participant to bid, the method comprising the steps of:

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